



Middlebury
Special Collections & Archives

C-45 Levi Parsons letters, journals, and other material

1821/12/28

Rev. Daniel O. Morton
Brig. [Brigadier] Leander
Capt Ray.

Shoreham, Vermont

Smyrna, Dec. 28 1821

~~A letter to myself~~ Extracts form a letter to myself and Mrs. M.

Dear Brother Morton,

I arrived here Dec. 3. & have had a precious month with Br. [Brother] Fisk. We cannot be too thankful for the privilege of meeting again on miss.y [missionary] ground, after a year of separation. It has greatly increased our desire to be united, for many years, in our blessed work.

We design, if the way is plain to sail for Egypt soon in hopes of seeing Jerusalem before the Passover. [Next section lightly crossed out, with some sentences also struck through] ~~The ^Eng^ Physician of this place advises me to sail for a warmer climate for the improvement of my health. I place much confidence in his opinion, altho [sic] there is another Physician, even as heavenly, to whom our eye should ever be directed.~~

~~I have sent to Prof. Hall~~ a small box of minerals: in this box is a letter for you, & a little bag containing 20, or 30 articles for different friends in your vicinity or in Pittsfield. A Cataloge [sic] of the things you will find with the box. They are not valuable, & you will not give them to my friends as any valuable present but as a token of remembrance. ~~The little crosses from Jerusalem you may dispose of as you please. I thought of sending one to the children o the Rev Mr. Bushnal but it is too fragile. -- I remember your people with great affection, & they will not forget that the tabernacle of David has fallen.~~

Let me assure you, any dearest Brother & sister, that we never felt greater encouragement in our work, & never greater oneness of soul, & of spirit. God seems to be with us of a truth in some of our seasons of devotion. We bless God for sending us to this field. Every day will bless him for enabling us to instruct a few souls in the knowledge of the Holy Bible. I look forward to our final meeting with some hope that the Lord will enable us to bring with us a few precious Immortals seduced by the blood of Christ. I leave this letter for the present.

Your ever dear Brother L. Parsons

January 1st. 1822. Smyrna --

New Year's day.

With pleasure never known before, do I send to the beloved family of my dear Br. Morton the usual salutation -- a happy New Year! Again Br. & Sister Morton with little Daniel, Lucretia, & Electa, a happy New Year! Be ye happy together, apart, in health, in sickness, in prosperity in adversity, & if such be the will of God (from such sorrow may you be preserved,) happy when you stand around the bed of death.

Dear Br. & Sister my present very feeble health remind me that you will not receive from me another New Years salutation. I am daily taught to relinquish my hold on earth. This day tabernacle. I am not without apprehension, will soon return to its native dust. I wish to set my house in order. The contemplated voyage to Alex.d [Alexandria] may be the instrument of my recovery by the blessing of God, & it may result as it did with the dear Mr. Warren in a speedy removal from earthly scenes. I mention this to excite your fervent prayers to God ~~for~~ me. [lightly crossed out] Will you remember me affectionately to W.d H, to Gen.e Chipman, Mr. Hunt, Wd. Fisk, Mr. Hantley, & to their families. And when you have a convenient opportunity, will you ~~say~~ give my christian love & respect to the Rev. Mr. Graves, Rev. Mr. Kend, Rev Mr. Bushnal -- to Dea. [Deacon] Bingham, Dea. Hutchingson; Rev Mr. Knapen [?] & [rest lost]

[Snippet on torn paper joining two leaves of letter]:

On the 27 of August Mr. Parsons enjoyed your [----]; and in a letter

P.S. Dear Br. Morton, I close with one request, that in case of my death, you would visit the town of Lewis ^N.Y.^ & assure my friends there of my encreasing [sic] love for them even to the last moment. ~~Keep this request~~ [2 words lost] [-----] L. Parsons